

## Off to the Country

Youth's Companion.

From stifling city streets to green fields and whispering woods is a change one cannot imagine other than welcome, especially to a child. Indeed, it is a great thing for the happy hundreds of poor children who are now enabled every season to enjoy the blessed country week, or even a country day.

Yet sometimes the hostesses of these city children, at the very time they gather from their careless chatter how much is lacking in their lives, learn also of unexpected compensations. There is so much for the poor in the daily drama of the streets, the intimate neighborliness of the crowded tenement!

"It's so awful quiet here," wailed one little girl, on a rainy day, "and I can't bear them frogs at night! Nobody told me the country was going to be sad."

Another child, sickly and pining from bad food and worse air, was yet so homesick in a charming seaside cottage that it had been almost decided to send her home, when the mistress bethought her to take the child into her own room at night. Even then she wanted her cot pulled so close to the lady's bed that the two touched, but that concession permitted, she became contented, and soon flourished like a flower.

She admitted that she "just couldn't stand the lonesomeness" of being by herself at night, altho she was neither frightened nor nervous. At home, she explained, there were three beds in the room with three children apiece in two of them, and four in the third—and she missed the company.

Still another child, picknicking for the day in the wild grounds of a beautiful villa, fell into confidential chat with her hostess before leaving. She had never seen so lovely a place, and she had had a splendid time.

"But," she asked, wonderingly, "do you really like to live here all summer? Just trees—and trees—and no folks?"

"I don't like fields without any paths in 'em and fences without any gates," sniffed a little boy with a scraped knee, disgustedly; but he was happily unique in his opinion, "I say, gimme parks!"

Beautiful our parks may be and loved deservedly of the children; but it is hard not to feel that a child has lost one of its natural rights that does not at some time have the "real country" to run wild in, grow brown in, and learn to love.

## What Missions Have Done

New York Observer.

President Samuel B. Capen, of the American Board, said: "It is too late in the century to ask the question whether or not foreign missions pay, but it is always in order to ask how much they pay."

He then contrasted the present condition of the work with what it was a hundred years ago, when everything French, even French infidelity, was in high repute, and when Yale

College was a hotbed of infidelity, and Princeton had but one Christian student. In Hawaii, eighty years ago, he said, the missionaries found the natives eating raw fish with the dogs, and then eating the dogs. Last year, with a proportion of church members, as compared with the Congregational churches, to this country, of 1 to 120, their gifts were as 1 to 6, and forty years ago they were already sending out missionaries on their own account to neighboring islands.

He said that while it was not true that commerce follows the flag, it does follow the flag of Christ. "This," he went on, "is not the highest sort of an argument, but when men are going around and sneering, and saying there is no good in foreign missions, it is well to have a few facts like these to throw at them. Many people pay their missionary obligations with the ecclesiastical nickel and less."

Little drops of water,  
Little copper cents,  
Make the mighty ocean,  
And benevolence,

he remarked, and added that there were some pastors who refused to agitate the question of missionary collections lest it interfere with their own living.

## College Girls and the Home

Success.

I would urge a college training upon each girl, if only for the sake of the home she now has and the home that may yet be her own. Think, for a moment, what she may bring back to the home from which she goes out to college, to share with the parents who, in their youth, had no such chance as they have given her. They may not care for her Latin and Greek, perhaps, but they always care for the general interest and knowledge that, while it does not rob them of their daughter, gives them a companion and friend.

Think what the college girl, who has kept the love of home alive and warm in her heart, may be to the younger brothers and sisters, whose admiration for her makes them as wax in her shaping hand. There are no measurements to tell how infinitely more she can be in the life of her elder brother, because of the training that lets her look out on life from his point of view, knowing what he knows, able to move with him along lines of thought where companionship is wise and best.

By and by, when she enters the home of heart's choice, what a power she has of sharing a still dearer life, in whose inmost recesses she ought to be at home. What a treasure she may bring, not of mere facts out of mere books, but of trained faculties, developed judgment, power of adapting means to ends,—all gifts to be applied to the home problem, so complex and so changing as to tax her resources at their best. She may be all that is possible as a woman, yet there is none too much of her for the

varied demands of wifehood and motherhood and the home.

For its dear duties, her mental training cannot be too thorough, or her heart preparation too tender and warm. If, now and then, she wearies of the smaller nursery tasks, and feels she has little use for college training, let her remember what it has fitted her to be, by and by, the close companion and most intimate friend of the boy in the cradle, when he, too, passes out into life thru the portal of college days.

## Among the Churches

## Wisconsin Notes

I left Stanley for Hills Dale on Monday, July 15. Began meetings in the school house in Hills Dale on Wednesday evening. Preached each evening during the week and twice on Sunday. The attendance was very good considering the extreme heat and very busy season of the year, (haying and harvesting.)

My purpose in going to Barrow County was to look up the future prospects in that vicinity. The immediate results were, three united with the church while I was there. Brother B. F. Williams and wife and Cyrus C. Williams. They are brothers. I also found a Sister of the Brethren near Hills Dale. Her name is Mary Ritter. Brother Ditch took her into the church at Claypool, Ind. Then I also found two members living in Barrow, Rufus Clemens and his wife. This makes six members of the Brethren church in Barrow and vicinity. There are several more who wanted to unite with the church, but circumstances prevented. I think it will be well for the district to help this small band of members. During my stay in Wisconsin, I was constantly in contact with "Hoosiers." Indiana people are rather plentiful in that section.

Brother B. F. Williams met us at the station when we went to Hills Dale, and at his home we were made welcome. Our last meeting here was a good one, especially so far as attendance was concerned. The house was filled to its utmost capacity and some one told us that there were as many outside as inside.

God bless the Wisconsin work.

Z. T. LIVENGOOD.

## Harvest Meetings

The Brethren and friends of the Poplar Grove church, Indiana, will hold their annual Harvest meeting in Bright's Grove near Vernon, Sunday, August 4, 1901. All are invited.

The Brethren of the Auburn Junction and the union class will hold their Harvest meeting in the grove south of Cedar, Ind., Sunday, August 11, 1901. A cordial welcome to all.

WM. W. SUMMERS.

## Lordsburg, Calif.

All is well with us here in Lordsburg. One more addition to the fold here in this part of Zion. Our work here is receiving the best of attention.

A large and thriving Sunday-school and an Endeavor Society that dared to venture \$500 toward the new church. The Lord has blessed their endeavors. Indeed he is truly good to us all. Sister Laura Slotter Williams is our new Superintendent of Sunday-school.

The Lord bless our dear EVANGELIST and her editor. Will send you a contribution for her columns soon.

B. F. SCHISLER.